

Western Carolina Democrat

and French Broad Hustler

VOL XX11, NO 30

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C. THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1915

\$1.00 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE

Important Real Estate Deals in Hendersonville

ST. JOHN HOTEL OWNERSHIP CHANGES; JOHN ORR SELLS J. H. JORDAN FARM AND DAIRY; U. G. STATON BUYS ROCK BUILDING; W. M. PERDEW PURCHASES LAKE OSCEOLA HOTEL; INVESTMENTS AGGREGATE MANY THOUSAND DOLLARS; THE REAL ESTATE MARKET BOOMING.

The real estate market of Hendersonville for the last few days has been marked with unusual activity as a result of which thousands of dollars in property have changed hands, the properties including the St. John hotel, the Osceola Lake hotel, the John L. Orr farm, the U. G. Staton rock building, the Chenoweth farm and the Brittain and Sitton dairies.

Buy Hotel, Farm and Dairies.
R. D. Waring of Orlando, Fla., has purchased the St. John hotel from Haynesworth and Milford of Greenville, S. C., and the John L. Orr farm, including the dairy. He also bought the Brittain dairy near Naples. The properties taken over by Mr. Waring represents an investment of approximately \$60,000, the deals being negotiated by U. G. Staton, with P. F. Patton representing Mr. Orr in the transaction.

Osceola Hotel Sold.
W. M. Perdue of Greensboro has purchased from J. H. Jordan and P. F.

Patton the Osceola Lake hotel, which overlooks Lake Osceola. He is running the hotel and there is a probability that it will be converted into a club.

Mr. Staton Buys Rock Building.
U. G. Staton has bought the rock building sold last September by him to Mr. Williams of Philadelphia, the consideration being \$16,000. The building is occupied by H. Patterson.

St. John Management Continued.
Messrs. Green & Ramsey, who hold a lease on the St. John hotel, will continue to run it. It is understood that Mr. Waring will improve the property and make the storerooms on the first floor among the most modern in Hendersonville.

Swings Big Deals.
Mr. Staton estimates that during the past few months he has handled Henderson county property to the value of about \$140,000. This with Georgia and Florida real estate handled by him aggregates \$400,000. During the past year or two he has invested heavily in Florida property valued at about \$185,000. He recently purchased a 880 acre stock farm in Gilmer county, Ga., about sixty miles from Atlanta, the consideration being \$20,000. The farm is stocked with Angora goats, sheep,

and they will conduct offices in Hendersonville, Atlanta and Orlando and make a specialty of buying, improving and exchanging real estate.

Swings Big Deals.
Mr. Staton estimates that during the past few months he has handled Henderson county property to the value of about \$140,000. This with Georgia and Florida real estate handled by him aggregates \$400,000. During the past year or two he has invested heavily in Florida property valued at about \$185,000. He recently purchased a 880 acre stock farm in Gilmer county, Ga., about sixty miles from Atlanta, the consideration being \$20,000. The farm is stocked with Angora goats, sheep,

and they will conduct offices in Hendersonville, Atlanta and Orlando and make a specialty of buying, improving and exchanging real estate.

Swings Big Deals.
Mr. Staton estimates that during the past few months he has handled Henderson county property to the value of about \$140,000. This with Georgia and Florida real estate handled by him aggregates \$400,000. During the past year or two he has invested heavily in Florida property valued at about \$185,000. He recently purchased a 880 acre stock farm in Gilmer county, Ga., about sixty miles from Atlanta, the consideration being \$20,000. The farm is stocked with Angora goats, sheep,

and they will conduct offices in Hendersonville, Atlanta and Orlando and make a specialty of buying, improving and exchanging real estate.

DIES WITH WIFE'S PICTURE PINNED OVER HIS HEART

Charles Becker Walks to His Doom With Firm Tread—"I am Innocent" Is His Last Message.

Sing Sing Prison, Ossining, N. Y., July 30.—Charles Becker paid the death penalty by electrocution here early today for having instigated the murder of Herman Rosenthal, gambler three years ago. With wonderful composure and maintaining his innocence to the last the former New York police lieutenant lead the way to the execution chamber. A photograph of his wife was pinned on his shirt over his heart. Three shocks were given before the prison physician pronounced life extinct at 5:55 o'clock.

With two priests at his side chanting a litany, Becker joining in and repeating: "Have mercy on us," the condemned man walked steadily to the death chair. He had sat up all night on the edge of his cot, talking to Deputy Warden Charles H. Johnson.

"I have got to face it anyway and I am going to meet it quietly and without trouble to any one."

The deputy warden left Becker about an hour before the time for the execution. When Father Cashin, prison priest, and Father Curry, of New York, came, they found the prisoner with his face resting on his hand, gazing at the prison floor. They remained with him to the end. To Father Curry he gave his last message, which was:

"I am not guilty, by deed or conspiracy, or in any other way of the death of Rosenthal. I am sacrificed to my friends. Bear this message to the world and my friends. Amen."

He hesitated a moment as he entered the execution room. He looked quickly at the double row of witnesses, glanced at the floor, then suddenly walked over the rubber mat and seated himself in the electric chair.

Three shocks were given before the condemned man was pronounced dead. He was put to death by the state executioner, whose name is unknown to the public. He said that in his opinion Becker had died instantly at the first contact.

At 4:30 o'clock he had given the following type written statement as his dying declaration, signed in his own bold handwriting.

"My Dying Declaration."
"Gentlemen:
"I stand before you in my full senses, knowing that no power on earth can save me from the grave that is to receive me. In the face of that in the teeth of those who condemned me and in the presence of my God and your God, I proclaim my absolute innocence of the crime for which I must die. You are now to witness my destruction by the state which is organized to protect the lives of the innocent. May Almighty God pardon every one who has contributed in any degree to my untimely death. And now, on the brink of my grave, I declare to the world that I am proud to have been the husband of the purest, noblest woman that ever lived—Helen Becker. This announcement is the only legacy I can leave her. I bid you all good bye. Father, I am ready to go. Amen." (Signed) "CHARLES BECKER."

THE FACTS WE FACE.

(Columbia State.)

The preparation by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy of reports about the national defense do not imply the beginning or the certainty of war. To say that it is without more than common significance at this time is to shut out one's eyes to facts.

From Berlin comes no utterance indicative of compliance with the American demands for the security of Americans from attack on the high seas and from the seas come no tidings that reassure the United States in respect of it.

The United States has not injured a German in person or property. The United States has not deviated from the rules that govern neutral nations in their intercourse with belligerents. The United States covets nothing that Germany has and cherishes no grudge against the German people. That the United States will make war on Germany there is neither prospect nor possibility.

Meantime the relationship of this country to distracted Mexico increases daily in gravity and the fact of long inaction and forbearance is the sole premise that justifies inference that our country will not soon be involved with that self-stricken republic.

War is not inevitable, but if it comes, it will be a serious war. At the moment there is little upon which to build a hope of peace unless willfully we ignore what is taking place in the world about us.

HENDERSONVILLE CHAUTAUQU FOR THREE DAYS THIS WEEK

First Performance Given Wednesday. Twelve in All: Will Last Through Friday of This Week.

Arrangements have been perfected for the chautauqua to be given under the big tent on Main street this week. Twelve performances will be given. Afternoon and night programs have been arranged and season tickets as well as those for single performances have been sold.

The chautauqua is being given under the auspices of the Greater Hendersonville club. The funds have been guaranteed so as to afford for visitors and home people some excellent amusements of a wholesome nature.

The performances will be given by the Radcliffe agency of Washington, D. C., and are recommended as being extra good.

The Democrat has for the past two weeks given a description of the chautauqua and it is expected that the entertainment will be largely attended by both home people and visitors.

The program follows:
First Day—Agricultural Day MORNING.

10:30 O'clock Farmers Institute. Addresses by County, State and National Farm Experts.

AFTERNOON.
3:00 O'clock Lecture, "The New Agriculture," by Dr. Frank B. Vrooman.

4:00 O'clock Concert by the Bessie Leigh Concert Company.

EVENING.
8:15 O'clock Concert and Entertainment by the Bessie Leigh Company.

9:00 O'clock Lecture, "Armageddon and After," a Story of the Great War, by Dr. Frank B. Vrooman.

Second Day—Educational Day. MORNING.

10:30 O'clock Educational Rally. Addresses by Local, State and National Educational Leaders.

AFTERNOON.
3:00 O'clock Forty-Five Minutes of Fun and Magic with the Mysterious Milburns.

3:45 O'clock Impersonations, Stories, Recitations, Grave and Gay, by Charles B. Hanford, the famous actor.

EVENING.
8:15 O'clock Musical Numbers and Preliminary Performances by the Mysterious Milburns.

9:00 O'clock Grand Scenes from Shakespeare's Comedies and Tragedies, by Mr. Charles B. Hanford, the celebrated tragedian.

Third Day—Town Boosters' Day and Neighborhood Picnic. MORNING.

10:30 O'clock Address on Boosting "The Old Home Town," by City, State and National Leaders. (All citizens are requested to close their places of business and unite in boosting our town on this day.)

AFTERNOON.
3:00 O'clock Grand Concert, by the Lyric Glee Club.

3:45 O'clock Lecture, "Visions and Ideals," by Dr. J. W. Frizzell, Chautauqua Director.

EVENING.
8:15 O'clock Lecture, "Some Twentieth Century Problems," by Dr. J. W. Frizzell.

9:00 O'clock Concert and Entertainment by the Lyric Glee Club.

PATRIOTIC WOMEN.
Every Nation Owes Debt to Fighters of the Quiet Fight.

(Washington Post.)

When Mrs. Thomas A. Edison first learned that her distinguished husband had been asked to serve on the advisory board of inventors and scientists to be appointed by Secretary Daniels she decided to prevent his acceptance. When she learned that his work would be advisory and that he could stand the additional strain she gave her consent.

The incident accentuates the debt that every nation owes to its women. Much is heard of the women who cause men to wreck their lives. Much is heard of those who are frivolous and extravagant. Little is known however, of the vast majority of women to whom men owe their salvation and the greatness of their careers.

The ideals of the youth of the country are formed, of course, by women. They lay the structure of education, intelligence and high ideals upon which great nations are founded. But more than that, they are the greatest single influence in the lives of most great men.

In the quiet of the sitting room, away from the jaundiced view that so frequently comes from personal contact with men and affairs, women have given the advice that has made nations stronger and finer and better. In the moments when statesmen, financiers and the captains of industry have been discouraged they have said the words that brought new hope and courage, and the fight for bigger things has gone on.

Possibly it might have been better for Mr. Edison to take on no new burdens. To reduce rather than increase his labors might have meant that he would have been spared to the nation for a longer term of usefulness. But the woman at his side knows him and the extent of his endurance better than he knows himself. Her approval of his acceptance is an assurance to the nation that he has made a wise as well as patriotic decision.

TWO PERSONS SHOT, FOUR ARE JAILED; MYSTERIOUS SHOOTING

ED MILLS CRITICALLY WOUNDED AND ALBERT THOMPSON SLIGHTLY INJURED; AIKEN MITCHELL, CRISS WOODFIN, S. G. LEONARD AND ALBERT THOMPSON IMPRISONED AS RESULT OF SHOOTING WEDNESDAY NIGHT; MOTIVE IS UNKNOWN BUT GAMBLING IS CAUSE WHISPERED.

Hendersonville experienced an unusual sensation that is shrouded in mystery last Wednesday night when four persons approached the home of A. A. Carter on South Main street and one or more began firing as a result of which Ed Mills of Atlanta suffered serious wounds and Albert Thompson of Spartanburg got in exchange a shot in the shoulder from the window of the second floor of the Carter home.

Physicians and officers were called, wounds were dressed, arrests made and men were rushed to the hospital and when the news spread up town people grouped themselves and began asking "Why the shooting?" The question has not been answered authoritatively and while Chief of Police Otis Powers says he can't answer it officially he and the other officers keep on working in hope that the mystery as to why the shooting occurred will be clearly revealed.

Albert Thompson, Aiken Mitchell, S. G. Leonard and Criss Woodfin of Asheville are said to have employed Will Jackson to bring the party to Hendersonville in the latter's car, which stopped in front of the Citizens National bank. The occupants, excepting Jackson, are said to have gone about 9 o'clock to the Francis residence on South Main, occupied by A. A. Carter and family of New York. Mr. Carter was called for and it is said that when Mills, who was visiting at the Carter home, called for Carter, Thompson fired on Mills three times. Carter in turn is said to have fired three shots from his room upstairs at Thompson. One shot took effect in the left shoulder.

Mills was seriously wounded, having been shot in the stomach. Officers were called and Mills was taken to the hospital. An operation showed that his wound had been punctured in seven places. His condition was considered very critical, but greater hopes for his recovery are now entertained.

Four Men Ran.

When the shots were made from the window on the second floor the men in the yard made a hasty retreat and soon afterward Chief Powers learned that Thompson and Leonard had gained entrance to the home of Charles Sunofsky on the opposite side of the street. Thompson's wounds were dressed by a physician and a bullet was removed from his body after which he was taken to the hospital and placed under the guard of police until Sunday, when his condition warranted his being taken to the county jail.

Two Arrested in Asheville.

Chief Powers gained information as to Woodfin and Mitchell and soon they were arrested in Asheville. About 3 o'clock in the morning Chief Powers and Tax Collector J. W. McCaskon brought them back to Hendersonville. They were placed in the county jail, where Leonard had been taken in the meantime.

Hat and Pistol Lost.

A straw hat and a 32 U. S. pistol with one empty chamber was found in the Carter yard. Thompson, it is said, claimed he fired three times with a Smith & Wesson gun, which has not been found, but which Thompson is said to have stated was left in the yard. Leonard had no gun on him when taken in charge by the officials, but sufficient time had elapsed for him to dispose of it before arrest. Woodfin is said to have claimed ownership of the hat that was left in the Carter yard.

Walk to Carter Home.

There was a persistent report that the men rode to the Carter home in an automobile, but Chief Powers said this was a mistake; that after the men left the machine in front of the bank the chautaufer took it to the garage on South Main, where Woodfin and Mitchell are said to have entered it after the shooting.

Carter Couldn't Identify Men.

When Carter was admitted to the jail for the purpose of identifying Leonard, Woodfin and Mitchell he could not recognize any of the boys. Mills is said to have known all those in the party except Leonard. The deposition of Mills, which was taken on the morning after the shooting, is said to have shed no light on the situation so far as showing a motive for the shooting.

Greeting Was Friendly.

Thompson upon approaching the Carter home is said to have greeted Mills in a friendly manner and asked for Carter then fired on Mills without any further exchange of words. This action makes the mystery deeper and opinion has been given that Thompson and his men went determined to take the life of both Mills and Carter.

Gambling May Have Been Cause.

Some of those involved in the shooting were mixed up in a gambling case in Hendersonville recently and the

shooting could have been the outcome of this trouble or some difference of long standing.

Posed as Attorney.

Among the attorneys who have been consulting the defendants are Spears Reynolds and Marcus Erwin of Asheville, Gray Calbreth of Spartanburg, Judge H. G. Ewart and Staton & Rector of Hendersonville. Clyde Smith, who is said to have been mixed up in a gambling case in Hendersonville, is reported as posing to Sheriff Drake as an attorney under an assumed name and gained entrance to the jail while the sheriff held a warrant in his pocket for him on a gambling charge. Smith was recognized by Chief Powers and arrested. Too much posing as attorneys and too much communication without any light on the mystery didn't exactly suit the officers so hereafter there will be less consultation except in cases where attorneys are known to have been retained.

Hendersonville is very much worked up over the shooting and gambling and the outcome of the situation will be watched with keen interest.

THE WAR A HELP TO THE WHISKEY BUSINESS.

And so it comes to pass, remarks a North Carolina editor, that the war is saving the whiskey trade. Alcohol is largely used in the manufacture of smokeless powder and the increased orders from the powder factories for this article have enabled the Distillers Securities company to resume the payment of dividends. "The last dividend this company had paid was in October, 1912, and it was but for one per cent. It has now accumulated a clear balance of \$1,400,000, which is equal to about five per cent on the stock. Besides, it has been able to eliminate a floating debt of \$12,000,000. Of course the war orders have not been responsible for all of this increased volume of business, but they have played a part and just what part is indicated in the statement that the company's capacity is now fully taxed to meet orders, particularly for denatured alcohol. It is understood the management is about to close a contract involving 16,000,000 gallons of alcohol for two companies, which is probably only a part of the total volume to be contracted for. To meet the requirements of this contract, the plants at Pekin, Ill., and Terre Haute, Ind., both of which have been closed for the past fifteen years will be reopened and put into operation."—N. C. Christian Advocate.

AMERICAN RED CROSS DOCTORS AND NURSES TO BE WITHDRAWN

American Red Cross doctors and nurses will be withdrawn October 1st from the European battlefields because of lack of funds to maintain them at their stations. The two units in Belgium, where it is said the greatest need exists, may be continued, but the other fourteen detachments will return to the United States. The Serbian sanitary commission and other work supported by special contribution will go as long as those contributions are available, but the general fund collected in the United States, amounting to \$1,560,000, will be exhausted October 1st.

Following is a summary of services rendered belligerent countries: Austria, 11 shipments, value, \$97,698; Belgium, 12 shipments, \$96,708; England, 13 shipments, value, \$87,845; France, 24 shipments, value, \$216,156; Germany, eight shipments, value, \$182,795; Italy, two shipments, value, \$14,451; Montenegro, three shipments, \$75,526; Poland, one shipment, \$7,200; Russia, nine shipments, \$89,613; Serbia, eight shipments, \$130,876; Turkey, two shipments, \$12,536.

In the work of cleaning up Serbia the Red Cross has used 358,783 pounds of sulphur, 700,000 bichloride tablets, 7,000 gallons of kerosene oil, 6,000 pounds of formaldehyde, 12,200 dozens of cholera vaccine, whitewash, wash brushes, 700 bath tubs, 50 step ladders and 12 automobile trucks.

TRY 'EM FOR LARCENY.

(Brevard News.)

The editor of the News would like a suggestion from some friend as to how to deal with a few stingy "cuses" who say they cannot afford to subscribe to the News, yet have the nerve and gall to come into the office from week to week and deliberately carry away a copy of the paper without so much as a thank you. These same men would hardly dare to go into a merchant's place of business and try the same thing, and yet we feel sure they have intelligence enough to know that the papers we print are our stock in trade, just as the merchant's goods. When broad hints are ignored what is a person to do in a case like that?



St. John Hotel.

Patton the Osceola Lake hotel, which overlooks Lake Osceola. He is running the hotel and there is a probability that it will be converted into a club.

Mr. Staton Buys Rock Building.
U. G. Staton has bought the rock building sold last September by him to Mr. Williams of Philadelphia, the consideration being \$16,000. The building is occupied by H. Patterson.

St. John Management Continued.
Messrs. Green & Ramsey, who hold a lease on the St. John hotel, will continue to run it. It is understood that Mr. Waring will improve the property and make the storerooms on the first floor among the most modern in Hendersonville.

Swings Big Deals.
Mr. Staton estimates that during the past few months he has handled Henderson county property to the value of about \$140,000. This with Georgia and Florida real estate handled by him aggregates \$400,000. During the past year or two he has invested heavily in Florida property valued at about \$185,000. He recently purchased a 880 acre stock farm in Gilmer county, Ga., about sixty miles from Atlanta, the consideration being \$20,000. The farm is stocked with Angora goats, sheep,

and they will conduct offices in Hendersonville, Atlanta and Orlando and make a specialty of buying, improving and exchanging real estate.

Swings Big Deals.
Mr. Staton estimates that during the past few months he has handled Henderson county property to the value of about \$140,000. This with Georgia and Florida real estate handled by him aggregates \$400,000. During the past year or two he has invested heavily in Florida property valued at about \$185,000. He recently purchased a 880 acre stock farm in Gilmer county, Ga., about sixty miles from Atlanta, the consideration being \$20,000. The farm is stocked with Angora goats, sheep,

and they will conduct offices in Hendersonville, Atlanta and Orlando and make a specialty of buying, improving and exchanging real estate.

Swings Big Deals.
Mr. Staton estimates that during the past few months he has handled Henderson county property to the value of about \$140,000. This with Georgia and Florida real estate handled by him aggregates \$400,000. During the past year or two he has invested heavily in Florida property valued at about \$185,000. He recently purchased a 880 acre stock farm in Gilmer county, Ga., about sixty miles from Atlanta, the consideration being \$20,000. The farm is stocked with Angora goats, sheep,

and they will conduct offices in Hendersonville, Atlanta and Orlando and make a specialty of buying, improving and exchanging real estate.

France and it has been more obviously true in the armies of Russia and of Great Britain. The experience of Britain is of most interest to this country, because the military situation of Britain most closely parallels that of this country; and the fact that of all the countries at war Britain has felt most keenly the lack of trained officers is proof enough that, if this country were confronted by the necessity of putting a large force in the field, lack of trained officers would certainly give us trouble.

France and it has been more obviously true in the armies of Russia and of Great Britain. The experience of Britain is of most interest to this country, because the military situation of Britain most closely parallels that of this country; and the fact that of all the countries at war Britain has felt most keenly the lack of trained officers is proof enough that, if this country were confronted by the necessity of putting a large force in the field, lack of trained officers would certainly give us trouble.

France and it has been more obviously true in the armies of Russia and of Great Britain. The experience of Britain is of most interest to this country, because the military situation of Britain most closely parallels that of this country; and the fact that of all the countries at war Britain has felt most keenly the lack of trained officers is proof enough that, if this country were confronted by the necessity of putting a large force in the field, lack of trained officers would certainly give us trouble.

France and it has been more obviously true in the armies of Russia and of Great Britain. The experience of Britain is of most interest to this country, because the military situation of Britain most closely parallels that of this country; and the fact that of all the countries at war Britain has felt most keenly the lack of trained officers is proof enough that, if this country were confronted by the necessity of putting a large force in the field, lack of trained officers would certainly give us trouble.

France and it has been more obviously true in the armies of Russia and of Great Britain. The experience of Britain is of most interest to this country, because the military situation of Britain most closely parallels that of this country; and the fact that of all the countries at war Britain has felt most keenly the lack of trained officers is proof enough that, if this country were confronted by the necessity of putting a large force in the field, lack of trained officers would certainly give us trouble.



Osceola Hotel.